

*John L. H.*



18 August 1971

Ambassador John M. Steeves  
Chairman, The Center for Strategic  
and International Studies  
Georgetown University  
810 18th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20006

Dear Ambassador Steeves:

Mr. Helms has asked me to reply to your letter of 11 August concerning assistance for Mr. Victor Zorza in his study of cybernetics in the Soviet Union. I regret that I must second the comments made by Mr. Goodwin. We really are not in a position to grant the access to our analysts that Mr. Zorza requests. I am enclosing, however, an unclassified bibliography of some of the better items which have appeared on this subject. I believe Mr. Zorza should find useful information in the Library of Congress.

Sincerely,



Edward W. Proctor  
Deputy Director for Intelligence

Enclosure:  
Bibliography

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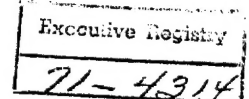
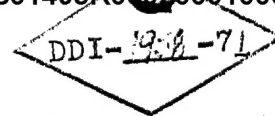
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August 11, 1971

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Director of Central Intelligence  
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Dear Dick:

I apologize for bringing this matter to you directly, but I think there is a measure of delicacy involved that can only be solved at the top.

The Georgetown University Center for Strategic and International Studies of which I am now the head, having taken over from Admiral Burke, engages in a wide variety of studies in international issues and public concern.

One which we have recently launched covering a six month period is an investigation of the program the Soviets are entering involving the use of cybernetics. It not only is of interest to the world in general, but could have implications that are rather far-reaching.

The individual with whom we have made arrangements for the study is Mr. Victor Zorza, a renowned columnist formerly with the Manchester Guardian. He will be with us for six months putting together a monograph on the entire question. One purpose of his study is to put together the open Soviet press material on the subject which is scattered in a great many sources. It would provide a framework for further study of the whole academic question. At present the academics shy away from it as the whole concept of cybernetics is somewhat suspect because of its novelty. Mr. Zorza wants to show that it is sufficiently respectable academically to merit attention and that it is also sufficiently important politically to teach us something about the directions the Kremlin might move in the future.

Mr. Zorza has been given to understand that some of your people have made a study of some of these aspects of the subject, and he has tried to establish contact with them in order to encompass in his study the unclassified Soviet materials which have been collected.

Mr. Zorza has only a few months for the entire project, and any help would be of great value because he could devote more of his time to creative analysis instead of re-tracing all of the searching techniques through the Soviet press for relevant material.


I think I should emphasize that he is not asking for anything classified. The Center does not deal in classified material. It is our belief that a vast amount of information on this subject is in the unclassified area.

On inquiry from some of your staff, Mr. Zorza was in touch with Mr. J.C. Goodwin. He indicated the agency could not be of assistance, but I am hoping that because of this unusual opportunity for utilizing Mr. Zorza in bringing out the study, some exception may be made.

I would be grateful for any appropriate help we could get in this area.

Warm personal regards. I remain,

Sincerely,

  
Ambassador John M. Steeves  
Chairman

Enclosure.